

What to do if you find spurge laurel...

- Do not purchase or transplant spurge laurel, also known as *Daphne laureola*, daphne-spurge, and daphne-laurel.
- Remove ornamental plantings and control escaped plants and woodland populations.
- Prevent the spread by thoroughly cleaning boots, pets, or equipment of mud and debris that may carry seeds.
- Take care to prevent exposure to the toxic sap.
- Report infestations and volunteer to help with plant removal efforts in your community.

Stop spurge laurel spread in Oregon!

**Report suspect
sites to**

Oregon Department of Agriculture
Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program
503-986-4621, or call

1-866-INVADER



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Plant Protection & Conservation Programs
Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program
635 Capitol St. NE
Salem OR 97301-2532

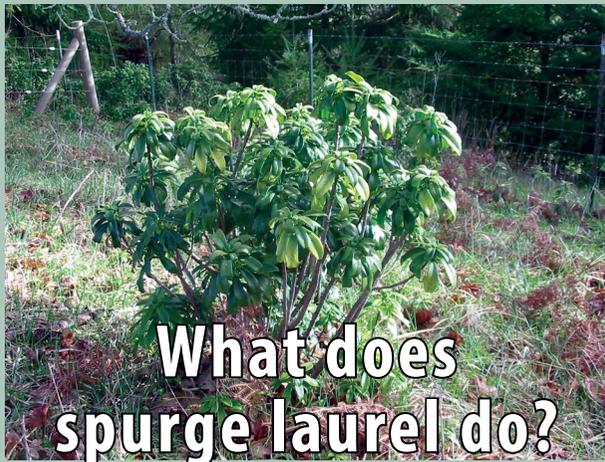
Spurge laurel

Daphne laureola
**ORNAMENTAL
INVADER ALERT!**





Originally used as an ornamental shrub, spurge laurel has escaped urban plantings and invaded parks and woodlands in the Pacific Northwest. Deciduous woodlands are especially vulnerable but it can be found in conifer forests. It often invades oak woodlands growing in the understory and adjacent grasslands.



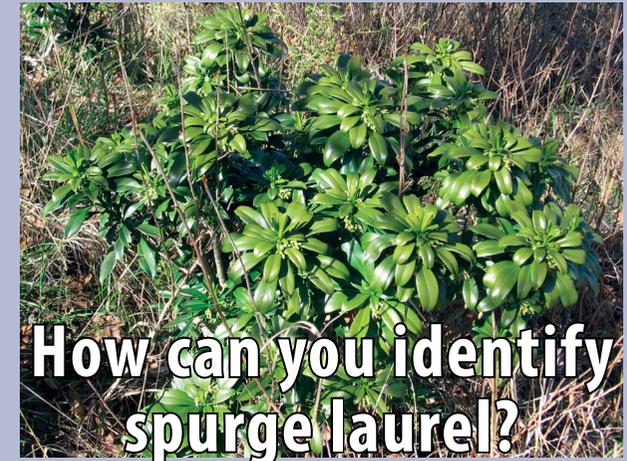
Spurge laurel forms dense stands in partial shade that compete with native understory plants. Heavy thickets reduce the density of desirable shrubs and forbs important for wildlife habitat. Plants are toxic and poisonous, ingestion can lead to human poisoning and the toxic sap can cause skin irritation and dermatitis.



Birds consume the small dark blue fruit and spread the seeds locally. Humans are responsible for long distance movement by transporting seed and using the plant as an ornamental shrub.



- Widely distributed
- Limited distribution
- Not known to occur



An attractive shrub that resembles a rhododendron, spurge laurel has upright spreading limbs and waxy evergreen leaves that grow in a spiral arrangement on the upper third of each stem. Grows 2 to 4 feet tall and large plants may have an arched sprawling appearance. Greenish-yellow flower occurs in late winter through early spring and have a bitter fragrance. Larger patches emit a strong unpleasant odor. Clusters of dark blue berries are produced by late spring.



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Invasive Noxious Weed Control Program
www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/Weeds
Photo credits: Glenn Miller, ODA.
Contact 1-866-invader for more information
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